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WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 12, 1894.

MEXICAN PENSION ROLL.

One Which is Not "Fugged," and in Which There Are No Suspensions.

On the Mexican Pension Roll there are the names of 15,215 survivors and 7,282 widows, and something over 3,000 cases were pending at latest reports. This makes a total of 25,497, or several thousand more men than the United States had in Mexico at any one time during the war.

These all receive either \$8 or \$12 a month. Among the names are those of the widow of Gen. Samuel Cooper, a New Yorker by birth, who was Adjutant-General of the United States Army at the outbreak of the war, and used his position to aid the rebels in preparing for the struggle. He resigned his position to become Adjutant-General of the Southern Confederacy, and officiated as such until the rebellion collapsed. Mrs. Cooper has been drawing a pension since June 6, 1897.

The widow of Thomas J. ("Stenewall") Jackson, who was next to Lee the most popular commander of the rebel armies.

The widow of Maj.-Gen. George E. Pickett, who commanded a division in the rebel army.

The widow of Maj.-Gen. Gideon J. Pillow, who commanded a division in the rebel army.

The widow of Lieut.-Gen. A. P. Hill, who commanded one of the three corps of Lee's army.

The widow of Sidney Smith Lee, who was dismissed from the Navy for "going over to the enemy," and afterward became a Commodore in the rebel navy.

Brig.-Gen. Jas. R. Chalmers, who was Forrest's chief lieutenant.

Maj.-Gen. Dabney H. Maury, who commanded the rebel troops at the battle of Chickasaw Bayou.

Hon. S. B. Maxey, late United States Senator from Texas, who has been drawing his pension since May 27, 1887. He was a Major-General in the rebel army.

Hon. Jas. Z. George, Senator from Mississippi, and who served in the rebel army as a Colonel. The number of his certificate is 17,214.

Hon. A. H. Colquitt, Senator from Georgia, who was a Major-General in the rebel army, draws a pension under certificate 19,199.

The widows above mentioned are of men who were educated at the Government expense, and afterward fought to destroy the Government. They went on the roll at once, while last April there were pending the claims of 145,520 widows of Union soldiers who had not yet been able to get on the roll.

Now, what extension can there be for the flagrant dishonesty which absolutely violates that promise and criminally disregards its good faith by denying to hundreds of thousands of men the pensions which they earned by incomparably greater and harder service than was performed by men in any previous war?

The war of 1812, the Indian wars, and that with Mexico, were mere picnics compared to the fighting and marching, the dangers and hardships that a man did, dared, endured, and suffered, who served three years in the Army of the Potomac or the Western armies.

There can be no justification for the absolute crime of withholding pensions from these men, for resorting to trick, artifice, and subterfuge to deny them their rights, for multiplying obstacles in the way of proving up their claims, for resorting to sharp technicalities to defraud them, and playing off Delay as an accomplice with Death in swindling them.

The policy is simply infamous. It is a dark stain upon the good name of a Nation that claims the highest moral standard of any on earth.

Let us have this shame ended by a return to the time-honored policy of putting on the pension-roll, at a fairly

BANK DISHONESTY.

The Government made certain clear, definite stipulations in the contract it entered into with the men whom it solicited to enlist in its service in the war of the rebellion.

Among those was the promise to pay pensions if disabled.

This was not only a binding pledge in a contract, but it was in strict accordance with the invariable military policy of the country, and of all civilized nations.

In every previous war it had a pension policy more liberal, all things considered, than the one it has followed since the war of the rebellion.

For inconceivably less service than was required in the war of the rebellion men received pensions and allowances that, considering the relative value of money, were higher than the average rates to-day. Besides, they were given land warrants.

This policy antedates our National existence even. The men who marched with Washington to Braddock's defeat, and who helped Sir Wm. Pepperell take Louisburg, were given pensions and land warrants by special order of King George.

As to comparative liberality: The men who served only 14 days in the war of 1812, or were present at any affair that might be called an engagement, were given a service pension of \$8 a month. It was substantially the same with those who served in the Revolution. Those who served 60 days in the Mexican war received a land warrant, and have since been given a pension of \$8 a month. These were all service pensions, pure and simple. A man who served 60 days in the Mexican war need not have been within 500 miles of the Mexican boundary, but he gets his pension all the same.

When it is remembered that the pay of a soldier in the Revolution was but \$4 a month; that after the war it was reduced to \$3; that workmen received but a shilling a day wages; that the pay of the soldiers up to and through the Mexican war ranged from \$4 to \$7, and that from \$5 to \$8 a month was considered good wages for farm hands and laborers, it will be seen that a service pension of \$8 a month then was relatively much more liberal than the average rate of \$11 a month, which those now on the roll receive.

The point that these facts clearly establish is that not only was an adequate pension a definitely expressed part of the contract entered into between the Government and its soldiers, but that this had an equally strong basis in the invariable practice of this Government, and all other Governments, "from the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." Thus, in addition to the Government's specific promises, the man who enlisted in its service had the right to expect, from its invariable custom in the past, that in his old age he would be given a pension that would place him on a plane with those with whom he was surrounded. The honor and good faith of the Government were just as much involved in this as they were in paying its creditors gold when they had lent it depreciated greenbacks. It paid these creditors, too, with the utmost promptness—with a promptness and fairness that astonished and delighted the world.

Now, what extension can there be for the flagrant dishonesty which absolutely violates that promise and criminally disregards its good faith by denying to hundreds of thousands of men the pensions which they earned by incomparably greater and harder service than was performed by men in any previous war?

The war of 1812, the Indian wars, and that with Mexico, were mere picnics compared to the fighting and marching, the dangers and hardships that a man did, dared, endured, and suffered, who served three years in the Army of the Potomac or the Western armies.

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The policy is simply infamous. It is a dark stain upon the good name of a Nation that claims the highest moral standard of any on earth.

Let us have this shame ended by a return to the time-honored policy of putting on the pension-roll, at a fairly

liberal rate, every man who honorably served the Nation in its day of trial and need.

Let us have all this labored, discreditable effort to "Not do it" stopped and replaced by a genuine attempt to put on the pension-roll as quickly as possible every man and woman who earned a right to be there.

Let us have fraud, slander, cant, and hypocrisy succeeded by manly recognition of the right, and American earnestness in doing the right thing in the quickest way possible.

THE NEW YORK TIMES'S SENSATIONS.

The New York Times is already coming to grief over its sensational fraud hunt among the pensioners, about which it is making such a pow-wow. The local papers are telling the other side of the story with great force and effectiveness. For example, the Potsdam (N. Y.) Freeman takes up the Times's list of "frauds" in that town, and goes through it, giving the actual facts in each case. Let us take the first on the list. Here is the way the Times states it:

C. P. B. was a Corporal in Co. B of the 16th N. Y. His application for a pension under the act of 1890 was filed July 31, 1890, and from this date he received \$12 per month, the full rate, by certificate issued June 3, 1892. His disabilities are "chronic diarrhea, with resulting diseases, and disease of the heart." This pensioner is a cobbler in a shoe shop. He is not a robust man, but works as he has been doing for a number of years past, occasionally adding variety to his daily toil by acting as Collector of Taxes. He does not work every day, and is in very moderate circumstances.

And here is the way the Freeman states it:

Chas. P. Barnes left a flourishing business and enlisted on the first call for troops in 1861 for two years. He was sent once to the front, and during his service was in 18 battles, one of them being the bloody fight at Gaines Hill, where 208 men of his regiment were killed in one hour and eight minutes. Mr. Barnes went in as a private and worked up to Corporal. His disability was brought on by privations in the Chickasaw Bayou swamp and in the seven days' battles, where all the food they had was seven crackers, and their water was sucked from the mud in the wagon runs. Mr. Barnes started in on the seven days' fight, but became sick and was sent to the hospital. From there he was sent home and lay at death's door for 14 months. A counsel of doctors found that the lining of his stomach and bowels was entirely gone, and for many months he was doctored to restore this lining. His disease comes on about twice a year, and the remainder of the time he is unable to do any heavy work. He drew a pension of \$4 per month up to 1890, when he secured the increase to \$12 per month.

OF THE NEXT ONE THE TIMES SAYS:

E. A. B. was a private in Co. D of the 1st Vt. H. A. His application for a pension was filed March 28, 1891, but his certificate was only issued March 22 of this year. It granted him \$12 per month, the full rate, from the former date. His disabilities are "disease of the lung and terminal intestine." This pensioner is now and has been for three years working regularly in a sawmill, running a circular saw, and the largest saw in the mill. He handles the lever which controls the saw, and occasionally wields a hook to help to bring a large log in position. He works every day the mill runs, averaging about four days a week the year round, and is considered an able-bodied and satisfactory workman. His earnings averaging about \$2.25 per day the year round. His work is not very heavy. He is a large, stout, and full-chested man, and looks well. He has frequently complained of trouble with his lungs. On this account he was obliged to give up his former work of "gunning" and saw filing in the same mill, at which he could earn from \$3 to \$3.50 per day, and take to the circular saw. His disability is moderate. His pension claim was presented through the Bureau by George E. Lemon, of Washington, D. C.

The Freeman tells this story:

E. A. Bundy enlisted in 1862 and served three years and 40 days. Early privations brought on chronic diarrhea, which developed a fistula or running sore at the base of the spine. This fistula Mr. Bundy has carried for 25 years. He also contracted pneumonia in the army, which left his right lung consolidated, and it has been perfectly solid ever since, until now when it shows symptoms of decay. Lieut. Dodge, of Mr. Bundy's company, states that when first taken sick Mr. Bundy was taken to the Lieutenant's house, but the doctor, which left his right lung consolidated, and it has been perfectly solid ever since, until now when it shows symptoms of decay. Lieut. Dodge, of Mr. Bundy's company, states that when first taken sick Mr. Bundy was taken to the Lieutenant's house, but the doctor, which left his right lung consolidated, and it has been perfectly solid ever since, until now when it shows symptoms of decay. Lieut. 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